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BRET + TERRY

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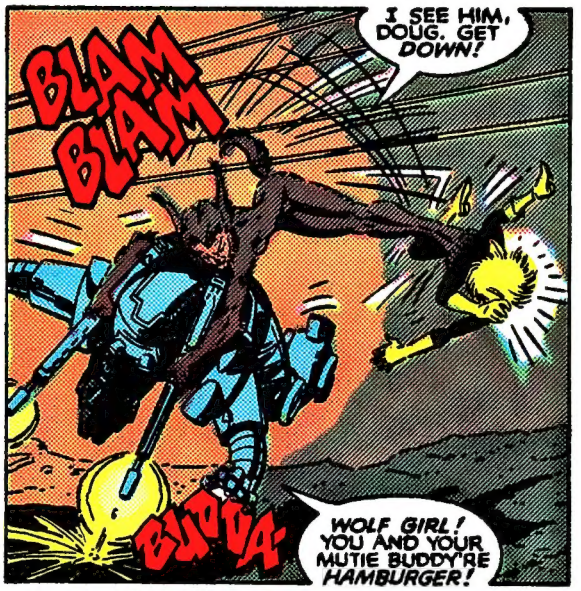
THE NEW MUTANTS™ Vol. 1, No. 64, June, 1988. (ISSN #0747-4601) Published by MARVEL COMICS, A NEW WORLD COMPANY. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published monthly. Copyright © 1988 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.00 per copy in the U.S. and $1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate $12.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $14.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE NEW MUTANTS (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO NEW MUTANTS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.**

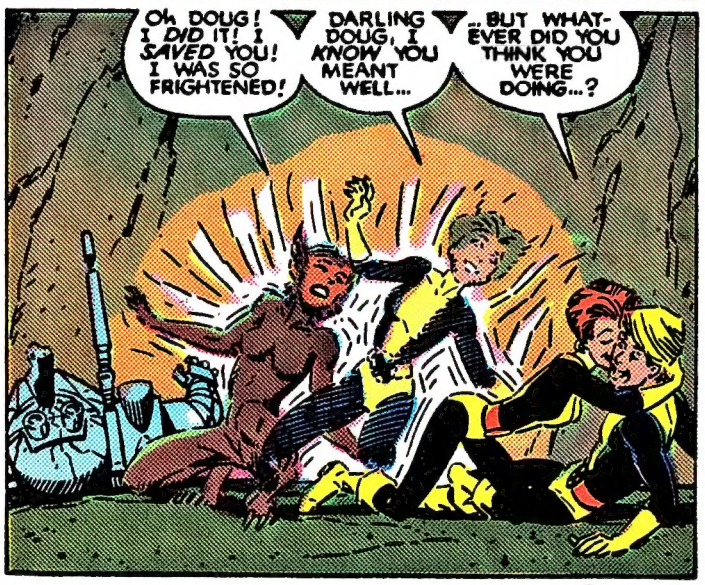
OF COURSE HE HAS A GUN, YOU SILLY! KEEP BACK, DOUG, I'LL SOON WRENCH IT FROM HIM!
I WILL PROTECT MY INTERESTS! IF I CAN'T HAVE THE MUTANTS... NOBODY WILL!
BLAM
RAHNE! WATCH OUT!


BLAM BLAM
I SEE HIM, DOUG. GET DOWN!
BUDDA
WOLF GIRL! YOU AND YOUR MUTIE BUDDY'RE HAMBURGER!

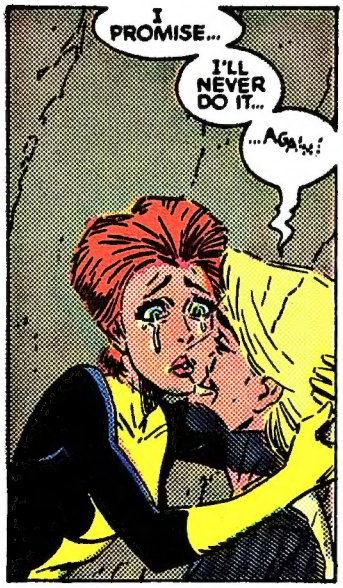
I CAN HANDLE HIM! HE'S ARMED AND DANGEROUS AND YOU HAVE NO POWERS!
BUDDA

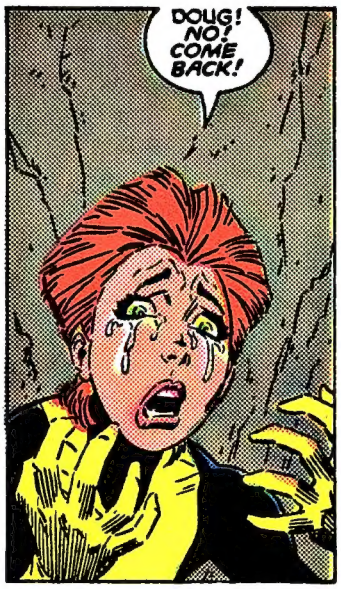
AARGH!
BUDDA

CHONK


OH DOUG! I DID IT! I SAVED YOU! I WAS SO FRIGHTENED!
DARLING DOUG, I KNOW YOU MEANT WELL...
...BUT WHATEVER DID YOU THINK YOU WERE DOING...?

DON'T BE MAD AT ME, RAHNE...


I PROMISE...
I'LL NEVER DO IT...
...AGAIN!


DOUG! NO! COME BACK!

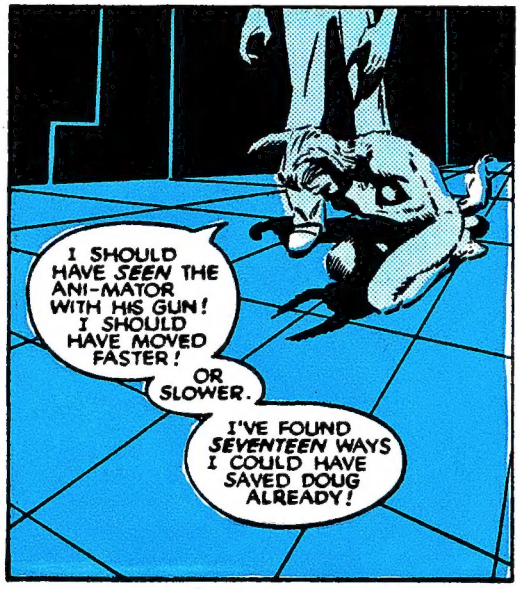
I SAVED YOU... YOU'RE ALIVE... COME BACK!
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DOWN HERE IN THE DANGER ROOM, RAHNE?

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN FIGHTING ILLUSIONS... TO SAVE AN ILLUSION?
BOBBY! WHO TOLD YOU TO COME HERE?

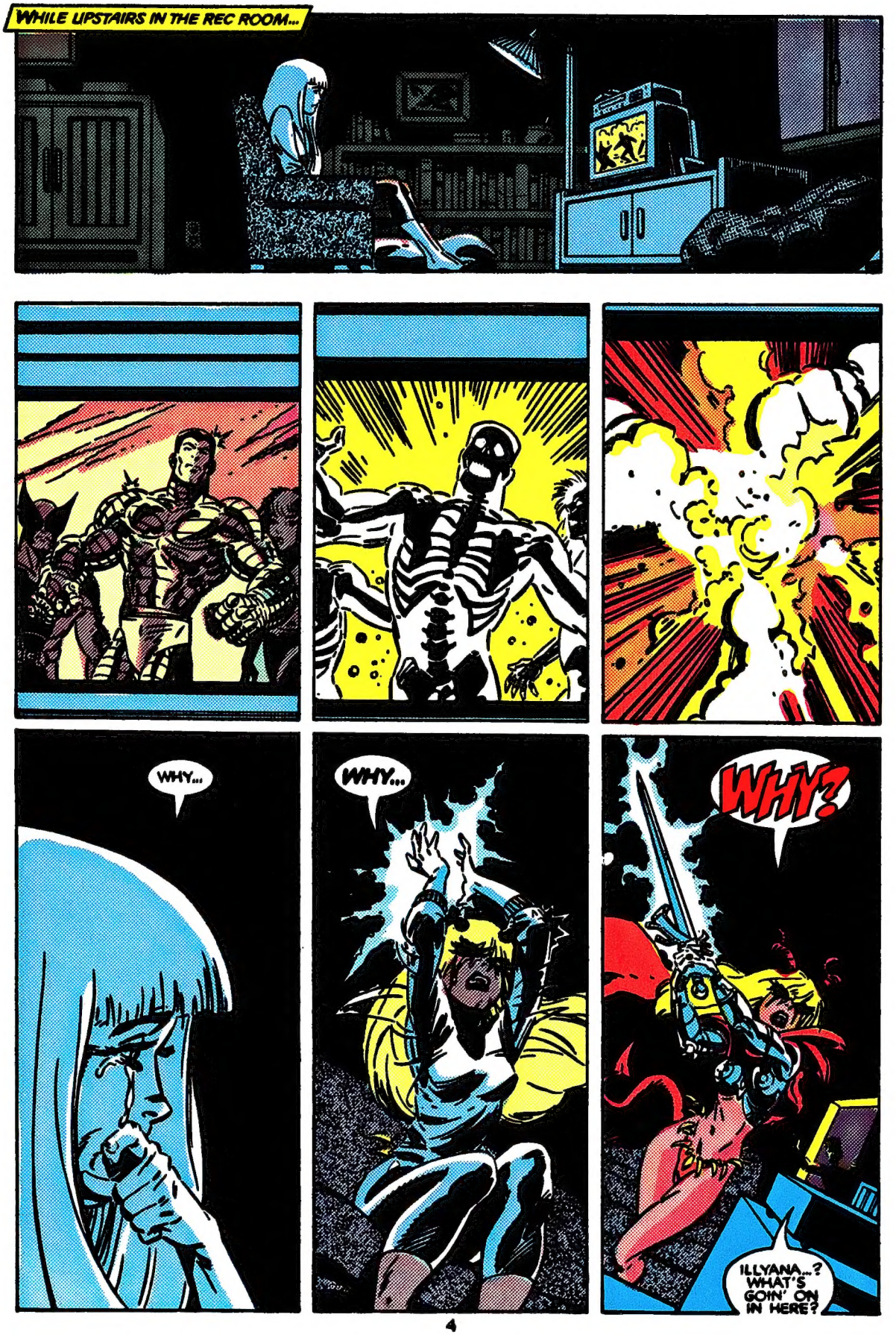
IT'S NOT YOUR BUSINESS.
PUT THE ENVIRONMENT BACK!
NO WAY! YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE ALONE. IT'S DANGEROUS! YOU COULD BE HURT... OR EVEN KILLED!

LOOK, RAHNE, I'M SORRY... BUT IT'S TWO IN THE MORNING.

C'MON UP TO BED, RAHNE. EARLY TOMORROW, WE GOTTA GO VIEW DOUG'S BODY.
BUT... DON'T YOU SEE--? THERE SHOULDN'T BE A BODY!


I SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE ANI-MATOR WITH HIS GUN! I SHOULD HAVE MOVED FASTER!
OR SLOWER.
I'VE FOUND SEVENTEEN WAYS I COULD HAVE SAVED DOUG ALREADY!

HOW COULD I HAVE MISSED THEM. HOW COULD I HAVE LET HIM DIE?


WHILE UPSTAIRS IN THE REC ROOM...
WHY...
WHY...
WHY?
ILLYANA...? WHAT'S GOIN' ON IN HERE?

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7 MT. LAUREL, N.J. - Budget Motor Lodge, Rt. 73 & Fellowship Rd., next to Exit 4 off N.J. Turnpike.
7 STAMFORD, CT. - Stamford Howard Johnson, Exit 6 off I-95.
14 WAYNE, N.J. - Totowa Holiday Inn, Rte. 46 West just 1/4 mile from Exit 55A off Rte. 80, two miles east of Willowbrook Mall.
20 PLAINVIEW, N.Y. - Howard Johnson Plaza-Hotel, 150 Sunnyside Blvd., Exit 46 off Long Isl.Exprswy.
21 MANHATTAN, N.Y. - Roosevelt Hotel, 46th St. and Madison Ave.
28 PHILADELPHIA, PA. - City Line Holiday Inn, City Ave. at Exit 33 off Schuylkill Exp.

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MARCH 1988

5 SPRINGFIELD, N.J. - Springfield Holiday Inn, 304 Route 22 West - four miles from G.S.Pkwy.
6 MT. LAUREL, N.J. - Budget Motor Lodge, Rt. 73 & Fellowship Rd., next to Exit 4 off N.J. Turnpike.
12 NEW HAVEN, CT. - Park Plaza, 155 Temple St., Exit 47 off I-95.
13 WAYNE, N.J. - Totowa Holiday Inn, Rte. 46 West just 1/4 mile from Exit 55A off Rte.80, two miles east of Willowbrook Mall.
19 PLAINVIEW, N.Y. - Howard Johnson Plaza-Hotel, 150 Sunnyside Blvd., Exit 46 off Long Isl.Exprswy.
20 MANHATTAN, N.Y. - Roosevelt Hotel, 46th St. and Madison Ave.
26 COMIC BOOK/COLLECTIBLE SHOW - Days Inn, 57th St. & 10th Ave., New York, N.Y.
27 STAMFORD, CT. - Stamford Howard Johnson, Exit 6 off I-95.
PHILADELPHIA, PA. - Call us for March date.

APRIL 1988

9 MT. LAUREL, N.J. - Budget Motor Lodge, Rt. 73 & Fellowship Rd., next to Exit 4 off N.J. Turnpike.
10 MANHATTAN, N.Y. - Roosevelt Hotel, 46th St. and Madison Ave.
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ILLYANA-- NO! STOP! GET AHOLD O' YOUR-SELF!
PUT THE SWORD BACK IN LIMBO WHERE IT BELONGS!

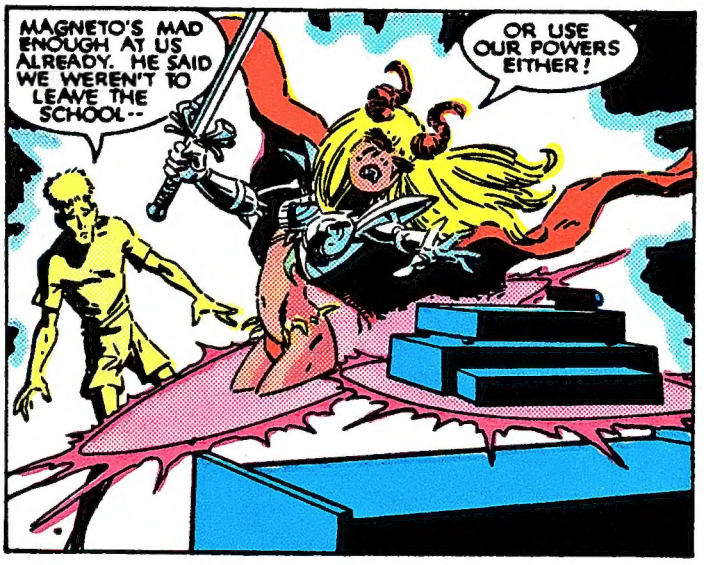
YOU'RE A... A GIRL, ILLYANA! NOT SOME SORT'A HORNED DEMON!
I... I CAN'T!

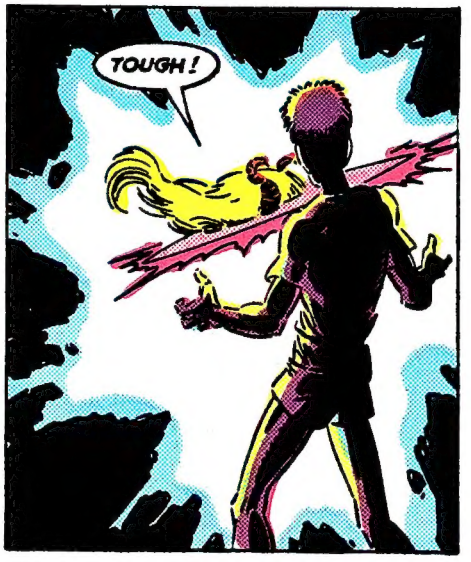
YA MEAN-- WON'T!
A LOT YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, SAM GUTHRIE! I'LL BE STUCK LIKE THIS... AS THE DARKCHILDE FOREVER...
...AND IT'LL SERVE ME RIGHT!

THE TV NEWS SHOWS AND SPECIALS KEEP PLAYING THE SCENES WHERE THE X-MEN DIE OVER AND OVER.
I TAPED THEM ALL-- I MUST HAVE THE WHOLE FIGHT NOW.
THAT STUPID CAMERA-MAN WAS THERE... AND SCOTT'S STUPID WIFE WAS THERE...

... BUT FOR ALL MY VAUNTED SORCEROUS POWER, FOR ALL THE FACT THAT I CAN TELEPORT...
... I COULDN'T GET THROUGH THE MAGIC SCREEN BLOCKING DALLAS... I COULDN'T HELP!
SO NOW I WATCH AND WATCH AND WATCH...!

JUST... JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!
ILLYANA! WAIT!


MAGNETO'S MAD ENOUGH AT US ALREADY. HE SAID WE WEREN'T TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL--
OR USE OUR POWERS EITHER!


TOUGH!

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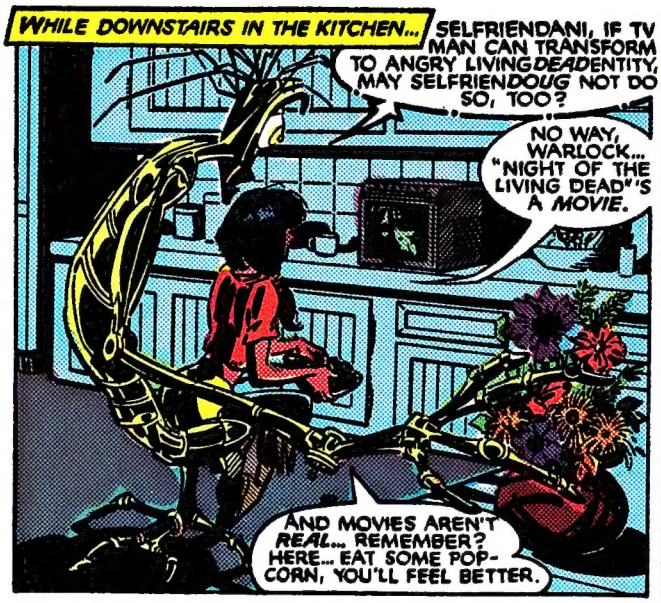
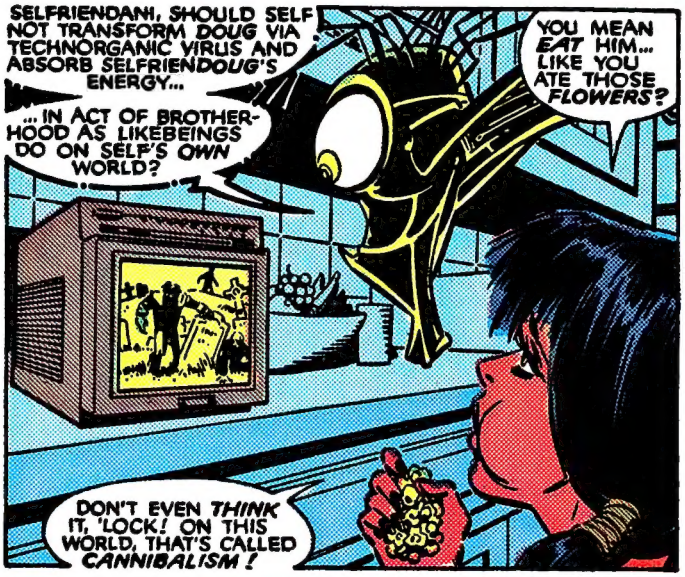
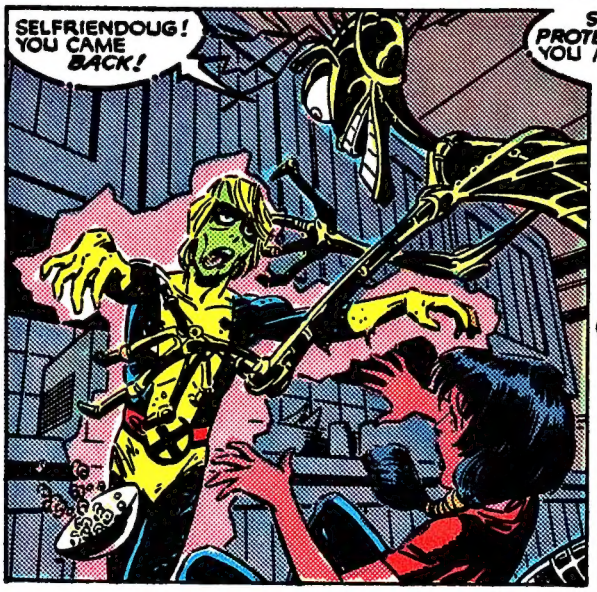

WHILE DOWNSTAIRS IN THE KITCHEN...
SELFRIENDANI, IF TV MAN CAN TRANSFORM TO ANGRY LIVINGDEADENTITY, MAY SELFRIENDOUG NOT DO SO, TOO?
NO WAY, WARLOCK... "NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD"'S A MOVIE.
AND MOVIES AREN'T REAL... REMEMBER? HERE... EAT SOME POP-CORN, YOU'LL FEEL BETTER.

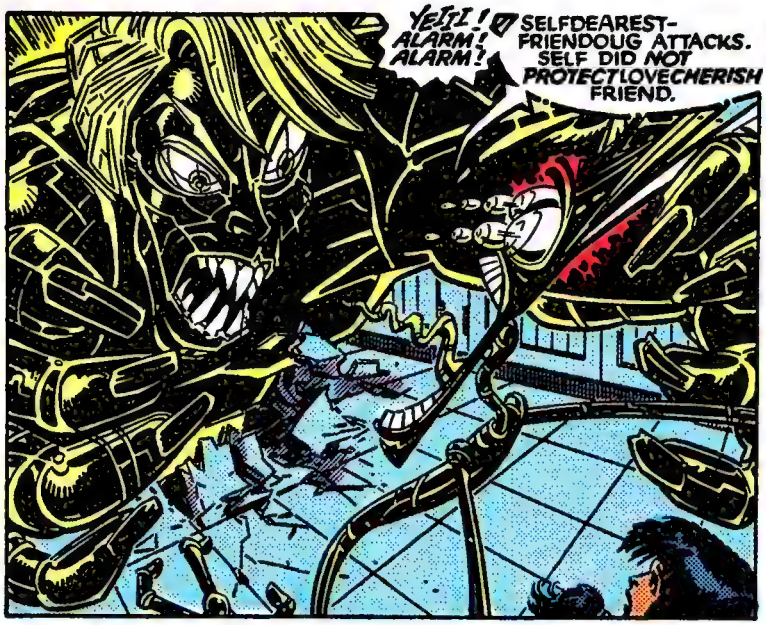
SELF DOES, INDEED, FEEL WEAK. SELF WILL TRANSFORM FLOWERS TO REPLENISH SELF'S LIFENERGY AND--


SELFRIENDANI, SHOULD SELF NOT TRANSFORM DOUG VIA TECHNORGANIC VIRUS AND ABSORB SELFRIENDOUG'S ENERGY...
... IN ACT OF BROTHER-HOOD AS LIKEBEINGS DO ON SELF'S OWN WORLD?
YOU MEAN EAT HIM... LIKE YOU ATE THOSE FLOWERS?
DON'T EVEN THINK IT, 'LOCK! ON THIS WORLD, THAT'S CALLED CANNIBALISM!

IT'S A BAD THING TO DO AND--
--NO!

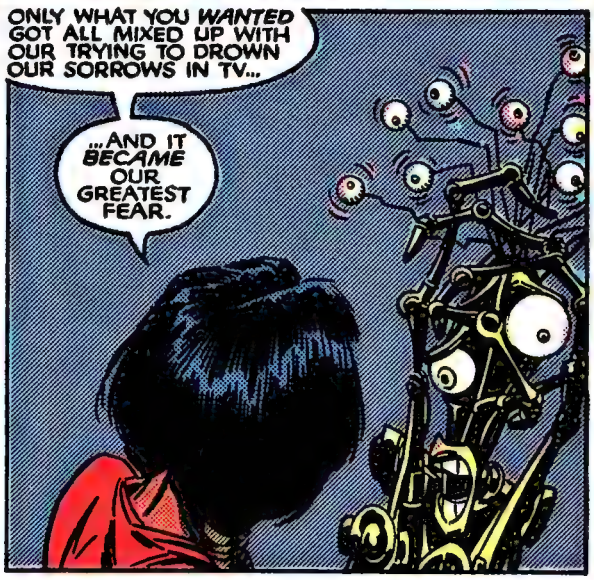

SELFRIENDOUG! YOU CAME BACK!

SELF CAN NOW PROTECTLOVECHERISH YOU AS SELFRIEND DESERVES.
NO! IT'S NOT DOUG! IT'S NOT REAL!


YE!I! ALARM! ALARM!
SELFDEAREST-FRIENDOUG ATTACKS. SELF DID NOT PROTECT LOVECHERISH FRIEND.

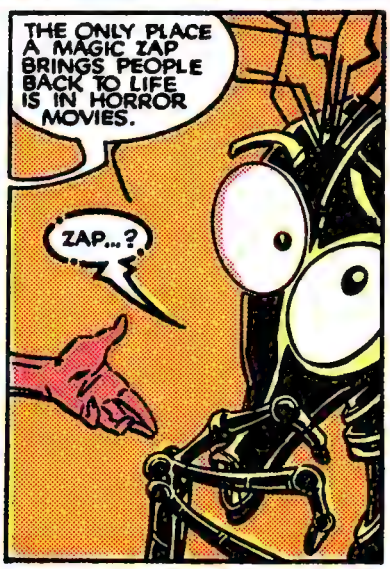
FRIEND WILL TRANSFORM SELF TO WALKING-DEADENTITY--

NO! 'LOCK, LISTEN! DOUG HASN'T COME BACK. HE'S NOT MAD AT YOU. HE'S NOT COMING TO GET YOU.
I GUESS... YOU WANTED DOUG BACK SO MUCH THAT I PICKED IT UP... AND PROJECTED IT.
IT'S ONE OF MY MIRAGES!


ONLY WHAT YOU WANTED GOT ALL MIXED UP WITH OUR TRYING TO DROWN OUR SORROWS IN TV...
...AND IT BECAME OUR GREATEST FEAR.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO, 'LOCK, I SWEAR. I HAVEN'T LOST CONTROL LIKE THAT IN AGES.
I GUESS DOUG'S DEATH IS GETTING TO... ALL OF US.
BUT... THE WALKING DEAD THING'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

ON THIS WORLD, IT'S ASHES TO ASHES AND DUST TO DUST AND THAT'S THE END OF IT.
DOUG COULDN'T COME BACK IF HE WANTED TO. WHICH HE WON'T.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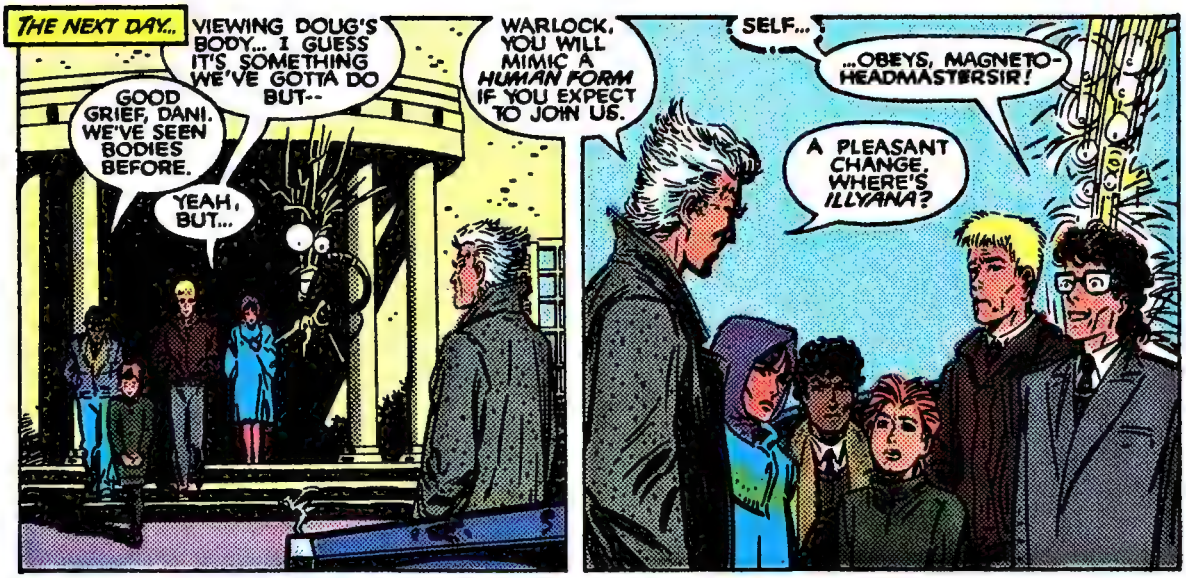
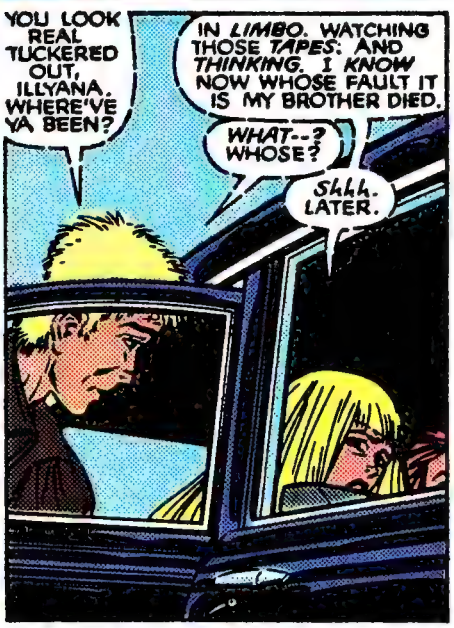
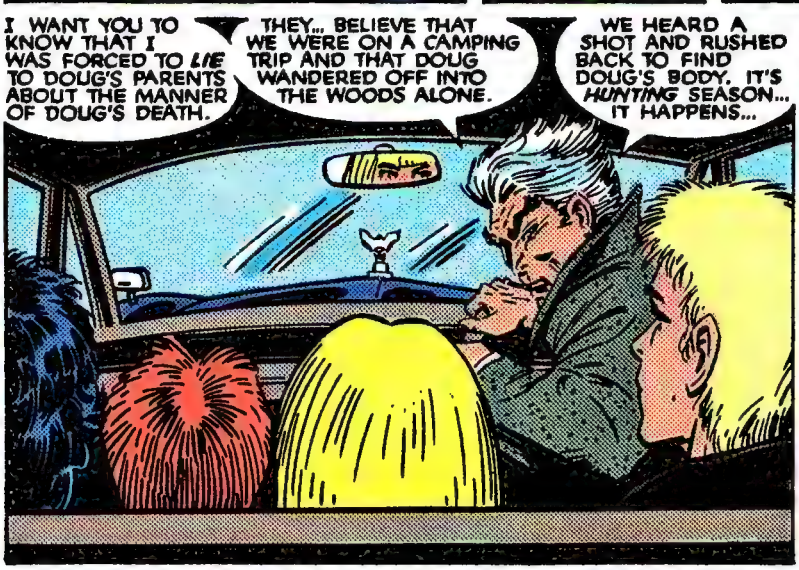

THE NEXT DAY...
VIEWING DOUG'S BODY... I GUESS IT'S SOMETHING WE'VE GOTTA DO BUT--
GOOD GRIEF, DANI. WE'VE SEEN BODIES BEFORE.
YEAH, BUT...
WARLOCK, YOU WILL MIMIC A HUMAN FORM IF YOU EXPECT TO JOIN US.
SELF...
...OBEYS, MAGNETO-HEADMASTERSIR!
A PLEASANT CHANGE. WHERE'S ILLYANA?

UH...
I ASKED YOU A QUESTION...!

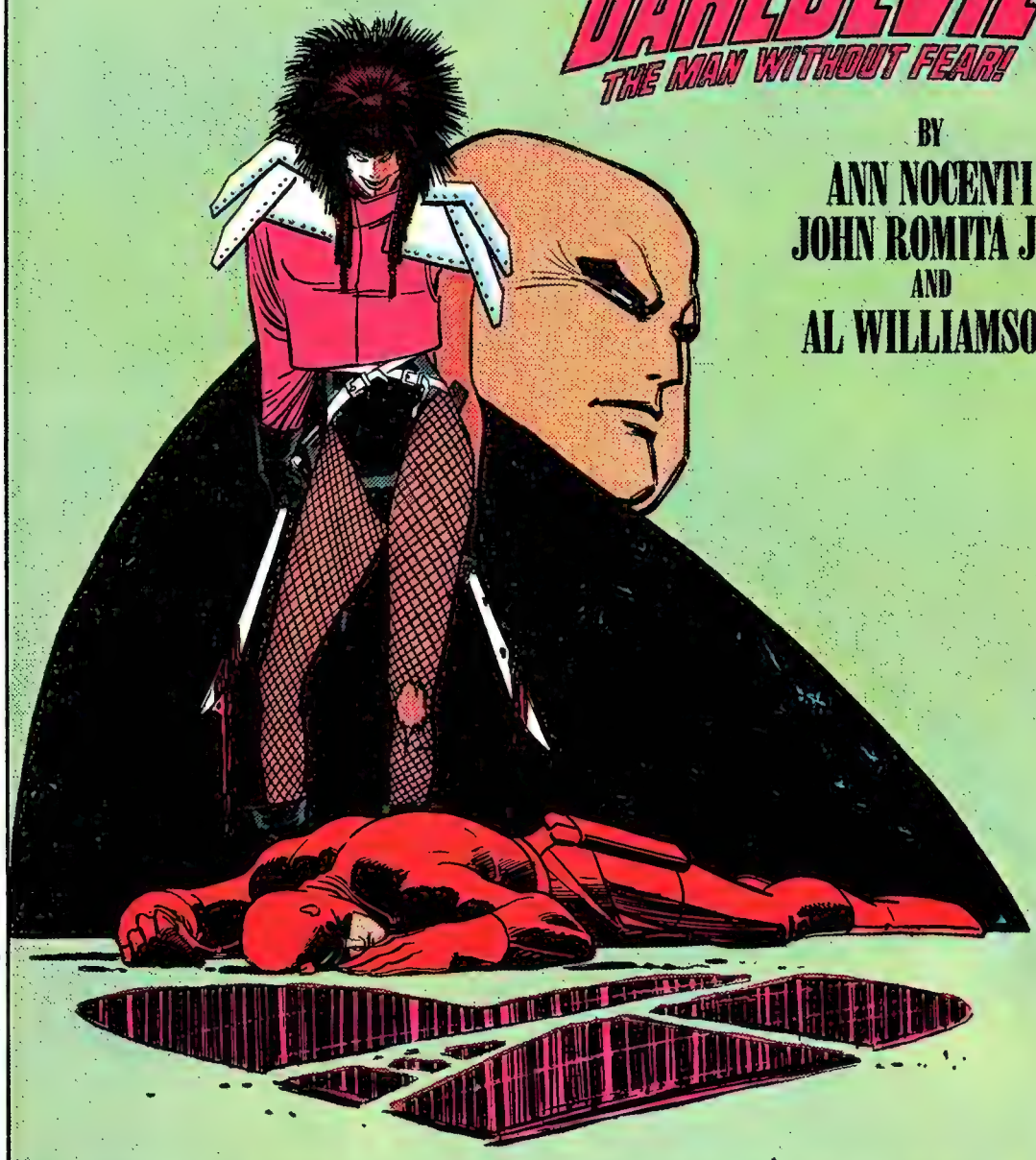
HERE I AM!
YOU'RE LATE. STUDENTS, GET INTO THE CAR!


YOU LOOK REAL TUCKERED OUT, ILLYANA. WHERE'VE YA BEEN?
IN LIMBO. WATCHING THOSE TAPES. AND THINKING. I KNOW NOW WHOSE FAULT IT IS MY BROTHER DIED.
WHAT--? WHOSE?
Shhh. LATER.


I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I WAS FORCED TO LIE TO DOUG'S PARENTS ABOUT THE MANNER OF DOUG'S DEATH.
THEY... BELIEVE THAT WE WERE ON A CAMPING TRIP AND THAT DOUG WANDERED OFF INTO THE WOODS ALONE.
WE HEARD A SHOT AND RUSHED BACK TO FIND DOUG'S BODY. IT'S HUNTING SEASON... IT HAPPENS...

...AND I THINK THEY BELIEVED ME.

SHE HAS TO KILL HIM ...
SHE LOVES HIM.



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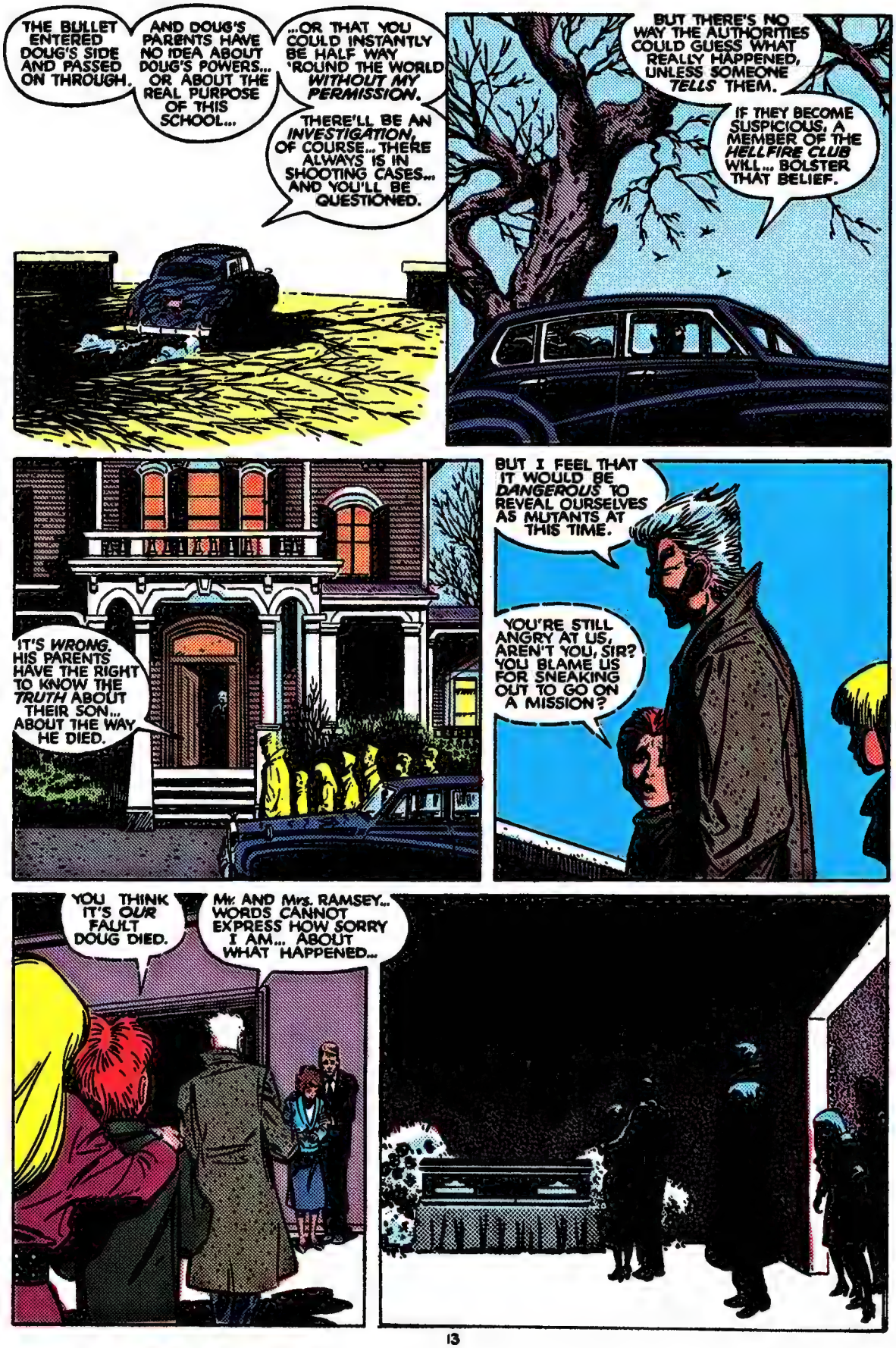
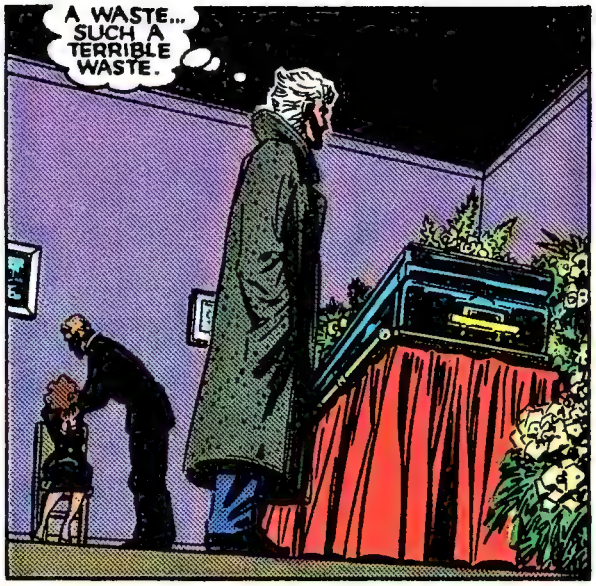
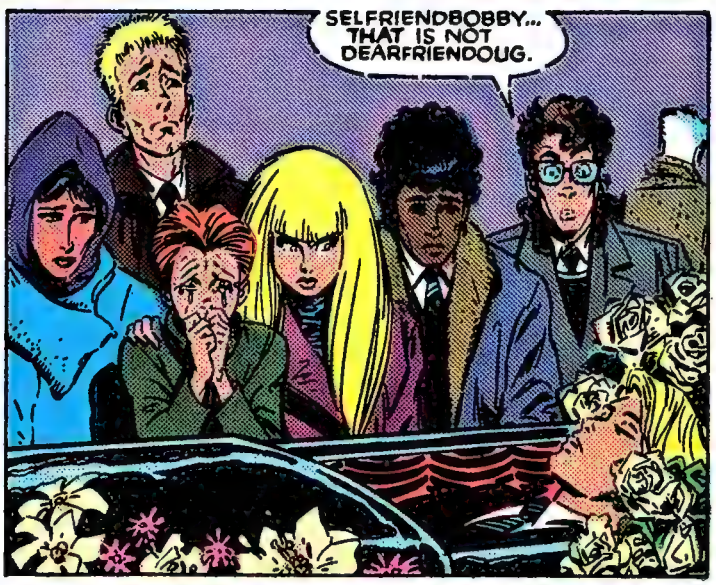

THE BULLET ENTERED DOUG'S SIDE AND PASSED ON THROUGH.
AND DOUG'S PARENTS HAVE NO IDEA ABOUT DOUG'S POWERS... OR ABOUT THE REAL PURPOSE OF THIS SCHOOL...
...OR THAT YOU COULD INSTANTLY BE HALF WAY 'ROUND THE WORLD *WITHOUT MY PERMISSION*.
THERE'LL BE AN *INVESTIGATION*, OF COURSE... THERE ALWAYS IS IN SHOOTING CASES... AND YOU'LL BE QUESTIONED.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY THE AUTHORITIES COULD GUESS WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, UNLESS SOMEONE *TELLS* THEM.
IF THEY BECOME SUSPICIOUS, A MEMBER OF THE *HELLFIRE CLUB* WILL... BOLSTER THAT BELIEF.
IT'S *WRONG*. HIS PARENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW THE *TRUTH* ABOUT THEIR SON... ABOUT THE WAY HE DIED.
BUT I FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE *DANGEROUS* TO REVEAL OURSELVES AS MUTANTS AT THIS TIME.
YOU'RE STILL ANGRY AT US, AREN'T YOU, SIR? YOU BLAME US FOR SNEAKING OUT TO GO ON A MISSION?
YOU THINK IT'S *OUR* FAULT DOUG DIED.
MR. AND MRS. RAMSEY... WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS HOW SORRY I AM... ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED...

MY BABY... NO... NOooo!


A WASTE... SUCH A TERRIBLE WASTE.

IS THIS THE FATE THAT HUMANITY HOLDS OUT FOR *ALL* OF MUTANTKIND?

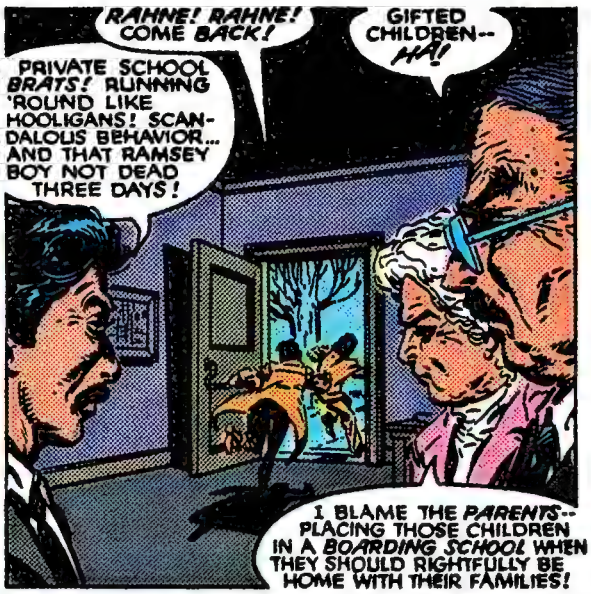

SELFRIENDBOBBY... THAT IS NOT DEARFRIENDOUG.

IT DOES NOT *LOOK* LIKE HIM!
HUSH, WARLOCK, CUT IT OUT! YOU CAN'T TOUCH HIM, IT'S NOT ALLOWED.
IT'S THE WAX AND EMBALMING STUFF THAT MAKES HIM LOOK SO FUNNY.

I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.
JUST DO WHAT WE DO. *BEHAVE.*

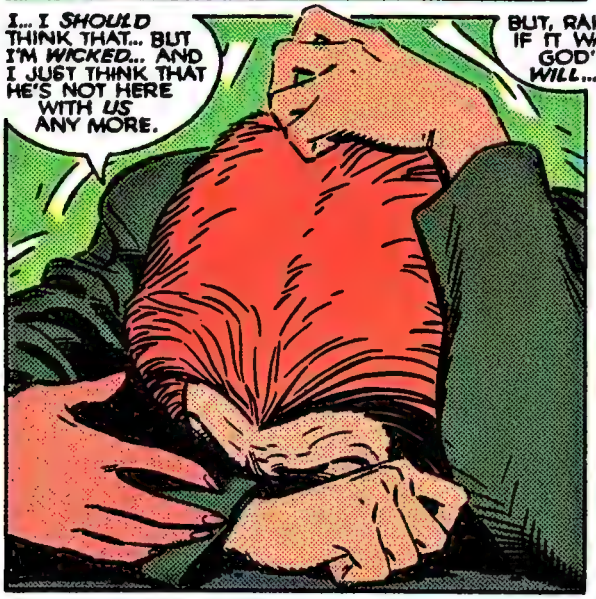
NO! WARLOCK'S *RIGHT.* *THAT* ISN'T DOUG, THAT *CAN'T* BE DOUG!

RAHNE!
DON'T WORRY, SIR, YOU STAY RIGHT HERE. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF HER.

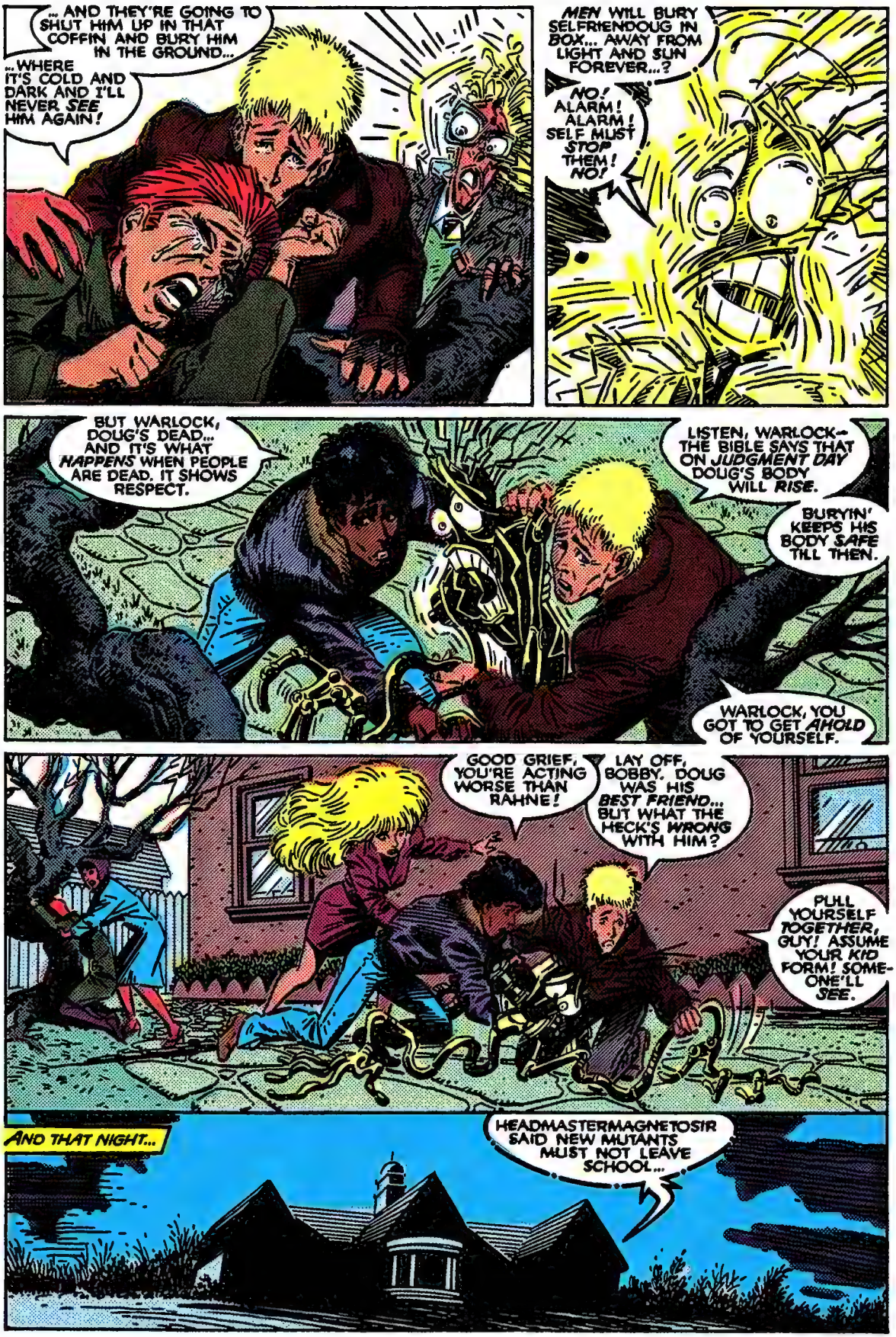

RAHNE! RAHNE! COME BACK!
GIFTED CHILDREN-- HA!
PRIVATE SCHOOL BRATS! RUNNING 'ROUND LIKE HOOLIGANS! SCANDALOUS BEHAVIOR... AND THAT RAMSEY BOY NOT DEAD THREE DAYS!
I BLAME THE PARENTS-- PLACING THOSE CHILDREN IN A BOARDING SCHOOL WHEN THEY SHOULD RIGHTFULLY BE HOME WITH THEIR FAMILIES!

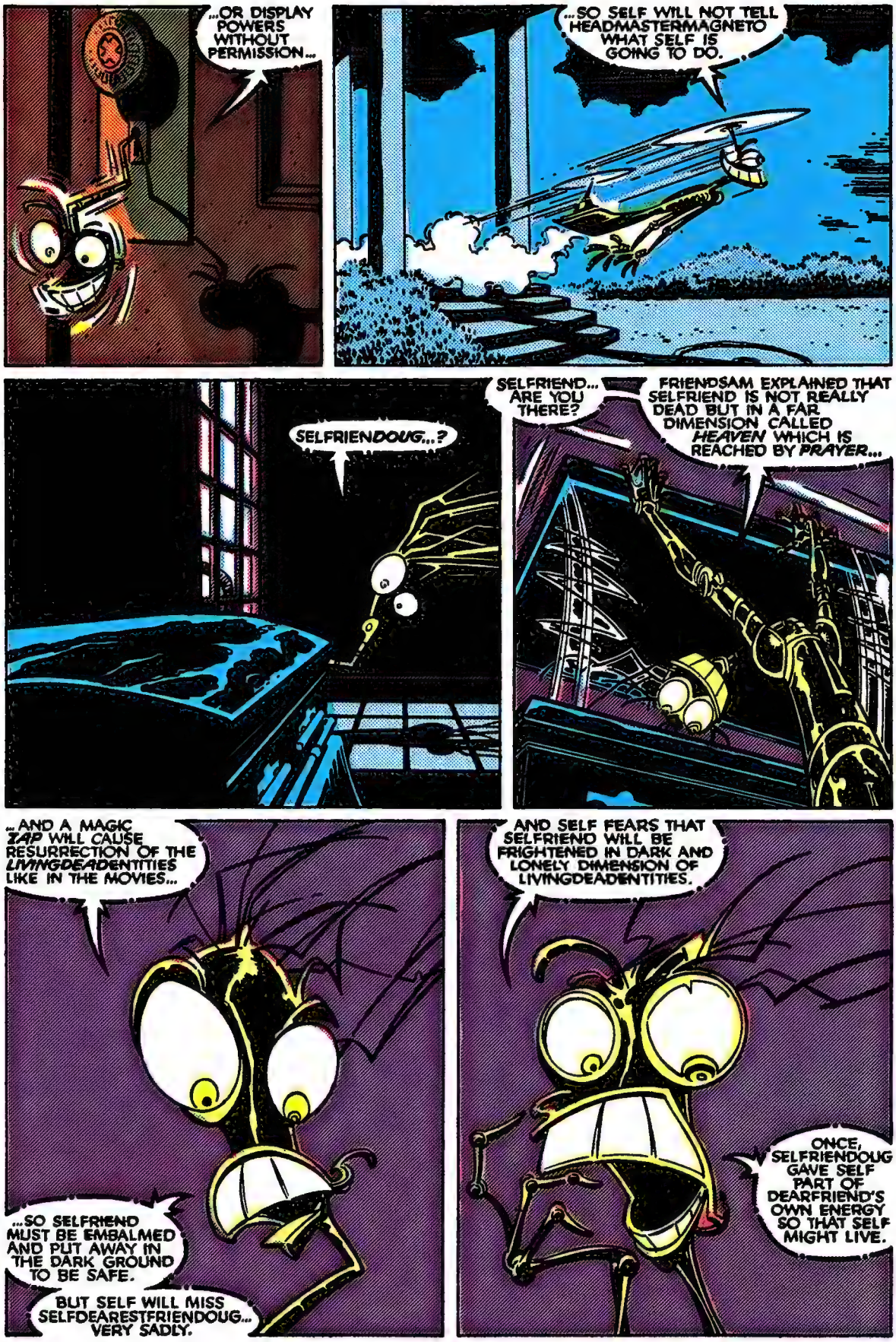
THERE SHE IS!
AH GUESS WE SHOULD COUNT OUR BLESSIN'S SHE DIDN'T TURN INTA A WOLF BACK THERE.
WHAT'LL WE DO? WHAT CAN WE SAY TO HER?

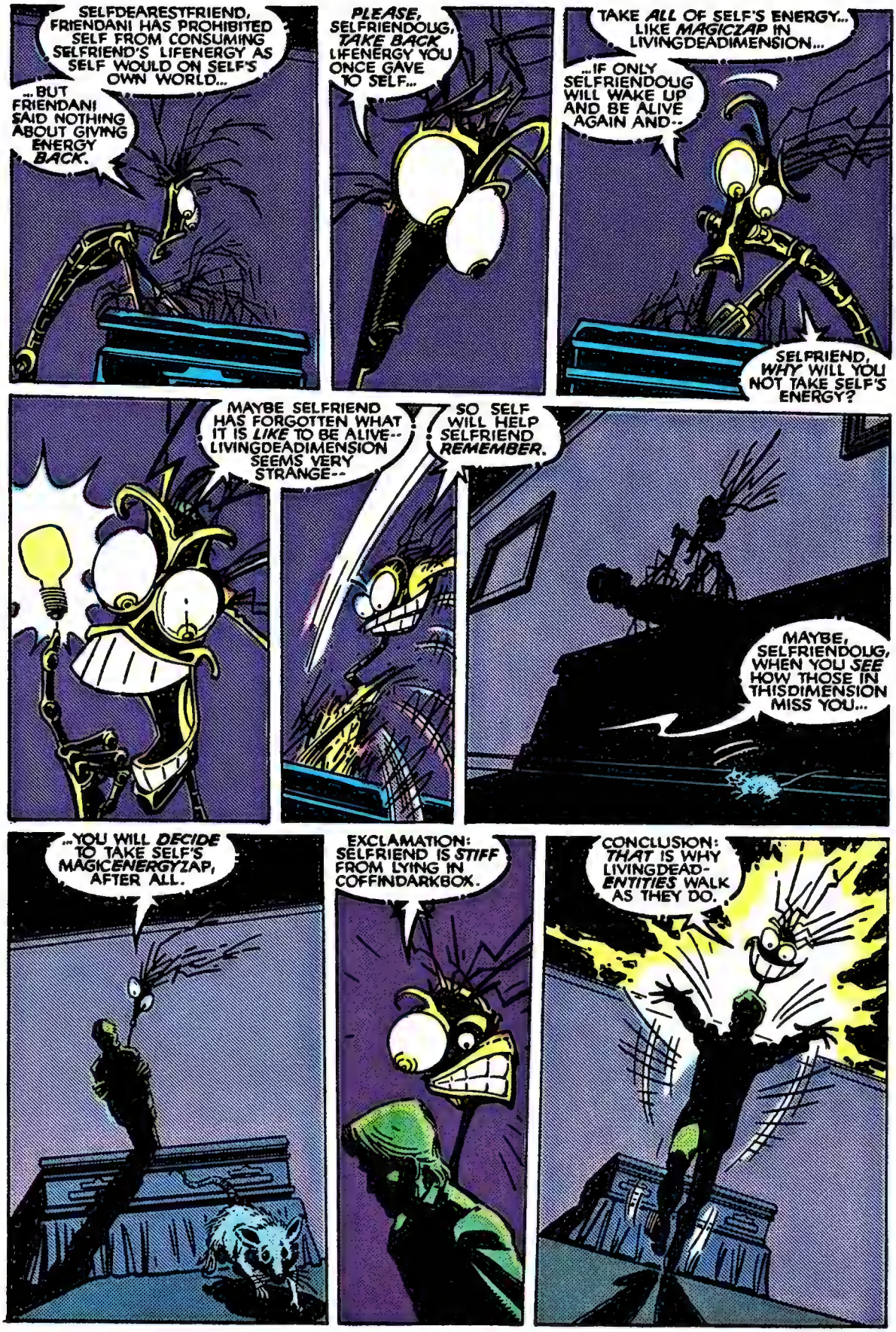
LOOK, RAHNE, SWEETIE, YOU'RE RELIGIOUS, RIGHT? AND DOUG DIED LIKE A HERO. HE WAS A GOOD GUY.
DON'T YOU THINK HE'S GONE TO A BETTER PLACE AND HE'S HAPPY IN HEAVEN?

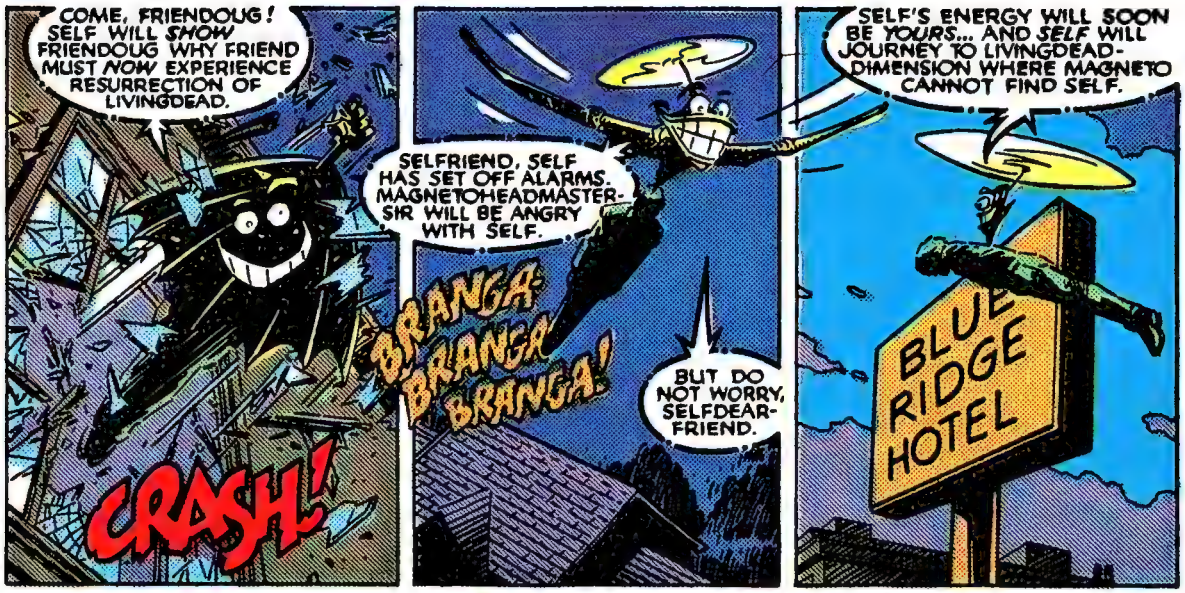

I... I SHOULD THINK THAT... BUT I'M WICKED... AND I JUST THINK THAT HE'S NOT HERE WITH US ANY MORE.
BUT, RAHNE, IF IT WAS GOD'S WILL...?

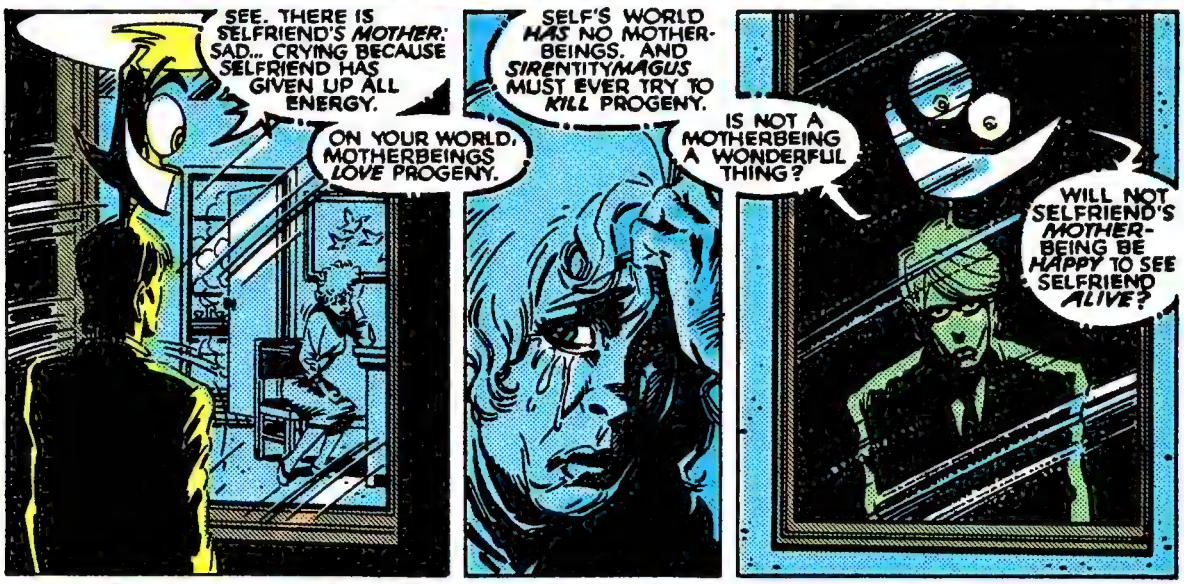
IT'S NOT MY WILL! DOUG WAS GOOD AND KIND. HE WAS MY FRIEND. HE DIED SAVING ME...
IT WAS MY FAULT HE DIED... AND I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE... AND I COULD HAVE SAVED HIM.
I LOVED HIM AND I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE WHEN HE DIED...

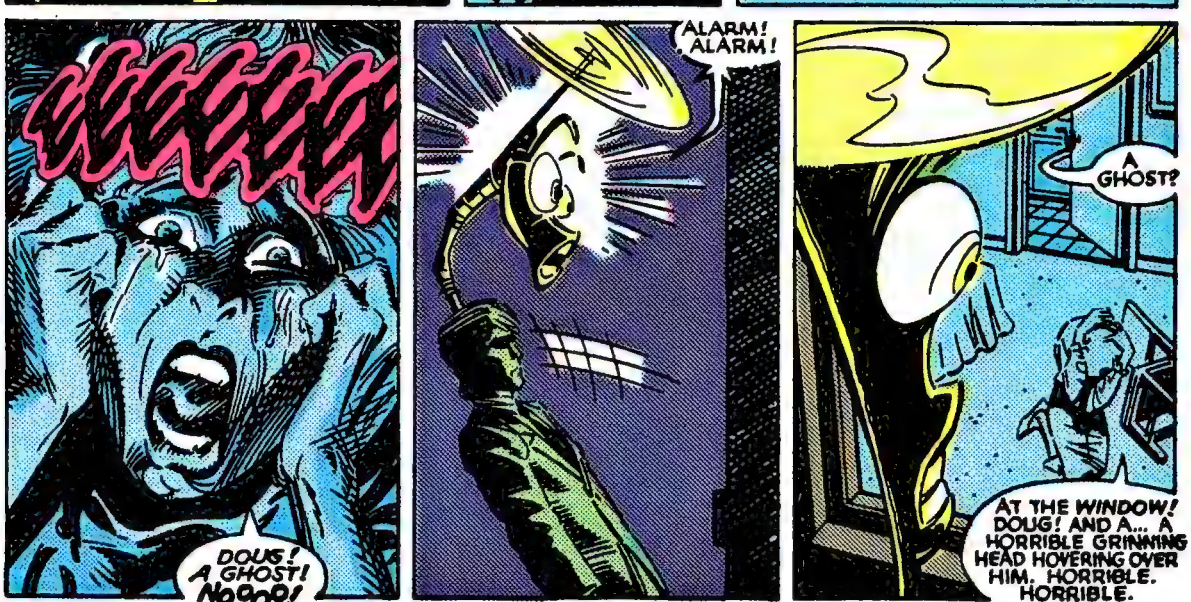

... AND THEY'RE GOING TO SHUT HIM UP IN THAT COFFIN AND BURY HIM IN THE GROUND...
...WHERE IT'S COLD AND DARK AND I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!
MEN WILL BURY SELFRIENDOUG IN BOX... AWAY FROM LIGHT AND SUN FOREVER...?
NO! ALARM! ALARM! SELF MUST STOP THEM! NO!
BUT WARLOCK, DOUG'S DEAD... AND IT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE ARE DEAD. IT SHOWS RESPECT.
LISTEN, WARLOCK-- THE BIBLE SAYS THAT ON JUDGMENT DAY DOUG'S BODY WILL RISE.
BURYIN' KEEPS HIS BODY SAFE TILL THEN.
WARLOCK, YOU GOT TO GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF.
GOOD GRIEF, YOU'RE ACTING WORSE THAN RAHNE!
LAY OFF, BOBBY. DOUG WAS HIS BEST FRIEND... BUT WHAT THE HECK'S WRONG WITH HIM?
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, GUY! ASSUME YOUR KID FORM! SOMEONE'LL SEE.
AND THAT NIGHT...
HEADMASTERMAGNETOSIR SAID NEW MUTANTS MUST NOT LEAVE SCHOOL...


...OR DISPLAY POWERS WITHOUT PERMISSION...
...SO SELF WILL NOT TELL HEADMASTERMAGNETO WHAT SELF IS GOING TO DO.
SELFRIENDOUG...?
SELFRIEND... ARE YOU THERE?
FRIENDSAM EXPLAINED THAT SELFRIEND IS NOT REALLY DEAD BUT IN A FAR DIMENSION CALLED HEAVEN WHICH IS REACHED BY PRAYER...
...AND A MAGIC TAP WILL CAUSE RESURRECTION OF THE LIVINGDEADENTITIES LIKE IN THE MOVIES...
...SO SELFRIEND MUST BE EMBALMED AND PUT AWAY IN THE DARK GROUND TO BE SAFE.
BUT SELF WILL MISS SELFDEAREST FRIENDOUG... VERY SADLY.
AND SELF FEARS THAT SELFRIEND WILL BE FRIGHTENED IN DARK AND LONELY DIMENSION OF LIVINGDEADENTITIES.
ONCE, SELFRIENDOUG GAVE SELF PART OF DEARFRIEND'S OWN ENERGY SO THAT SELF MIGHT LIVE.


SELFDEAREST FRIEND, FRIENDANI HAS PROHIBITED SELF FROM CONSUMING SELFRIEND'S LIFENERGY AS SELF WOULD ON SELF'S OWN WORLD...
...BUT FRIENDANI SAID NOTHING ABOUT GIVING ENERGY BACK.
PLEASE, SELFRIENDOUG, TAKE BACK LIFENERGY YOU ONCE GAVE TO SELF...
TAKE ALL OF SELF'S ENERGY... LIKE MAGICZAP IN LIVINGDEADIMENSION...
...IF ONLY SELFRIENDOUG WILL WAKE UP AND BE ALIVE AGAIN AND--
SELFRIEND, WHY WILL YOU NOT TAKE SELF'S ENERGY?
MAYBE SELFRIEND HAS FORGOTTEN WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE ALIVE-- LIVINGDEADIMENSION SEEMS VERY STRANGE--
SO SELF WILL HELP SELFRIEND REMEMBER.
MAYBE, SELFRIENDOUG, WHEN YOU SEE HOW THOSE IN THISDIMENSION MISS YOU...
...YOU WILL DECIDE TO TAKE SELF'S MAGICENERGYZAP, AFTER ALL.
EXCLAMATION: SELFRIEND IS STIFF FROM LYING IN COFFINDARKBOX.
CONCLUSION: THAT IS WHY LIVINGDEAD-ENTITIES WALK AS THEY DO.


COME, FRIENDOUG! SELF WILL SHOW FRIENDOUG WHY FRIEND MUST NOW EXPERIENCE RESURRECTION OF LIVINGDEAD.
CRASH!
SELFRIEND, SELF HAS SET OFF ALARMS. MAGNETOHEADMASTER-SIR WILL BE ANGRY WITH SELF.
BRANGA-BRANGA-BRANGA!
BUT DO NOT WORRY, SELFDEAR-FRIEND.
SELF'S ENERGY WILL SOON BE YOURS... AND SELF WILL JOURNEY TO LIVINGDEAD-DIMENSION WHERE MAGNETO CANNOT FIND SELF.
BLUE RIDGE HOTEL


SEE. THERE IS SELFRIEND'S MOTHER. SAD... CRYING BECAUSE SELFRIEND HAS GIVEN UP ALL ENERGY.
ON YOUR WORLD, MOTHERBEINGS LOVE PROGENY.
SELF'S WORLD HAS NO MOTHER-BEINGS. AND SIRENTITYMAGUS MUST EVER TRY TO KILL PROGENY.
IS NOT A MOTHERBEING A WONDERFUL THING?
WILL NOT SELFRIEND'S MOTHER-BEING BE HAPPY TO SEE SELFRIEND ALIVE?


DOUG! A GHOST! NOOOO!
ALARM! ALARM!
A GHOST?
AT THE WINDOW! DOUG! AND A... A HORRIBLE GRINNING HEAD HOVERING OVER HIM. HORRIBLE. HORRIBLE.

BUT... THERE'S NOTHING THERE.
MY MIND... IT'S COMING UNHINGED. I'M SEEING THINGS. I'M GOING MAD!
SINCERE REGRETS OFFERED, SELFRIENDOUG. THAT DID NOT WORK.
SELFRIEND'S MOTHERBEING WAS NOT HAPPY. SHE WAS FRIGHTENED. SELF DOES NOT UNDERSTAND.
BUT SELF KNOWS THAT SELFRIENDRAHNE MISSES FRIENDOUG... NEARLY AS MUCH AS SELF.
FRIENDRAHNE CRIED HERSELF TO SLEEP. PERHAPS WHEN DEARFRIEND SEES HER...
TAP TAP TAP
WHAT IS IT...?
DOUG?
DOUG!
YOU AREN'T DEAD, YOU AREN'T!
IT WASN'T REAL!
IT WAS ALL A MISUNDERSTANDING...
...SOME TERRIBLE MISTAKE, WASN'T IT...?
DOUG...?

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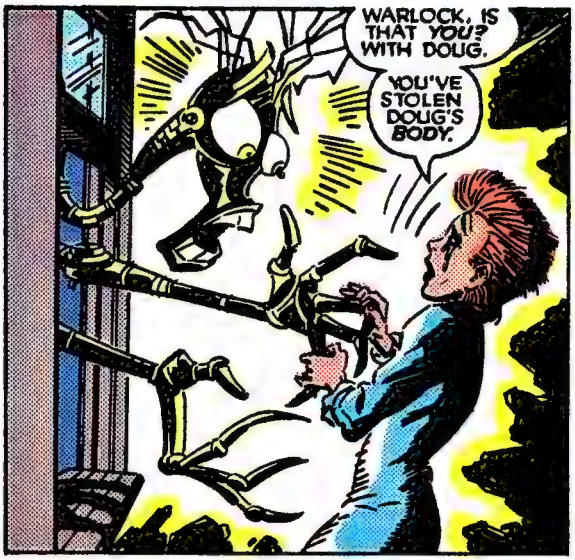
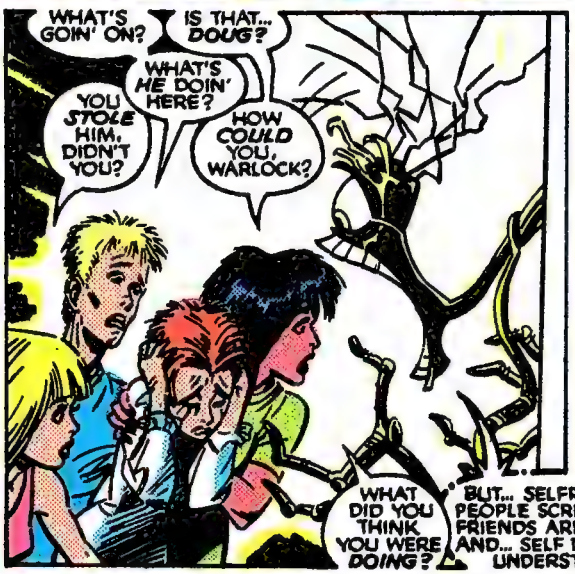
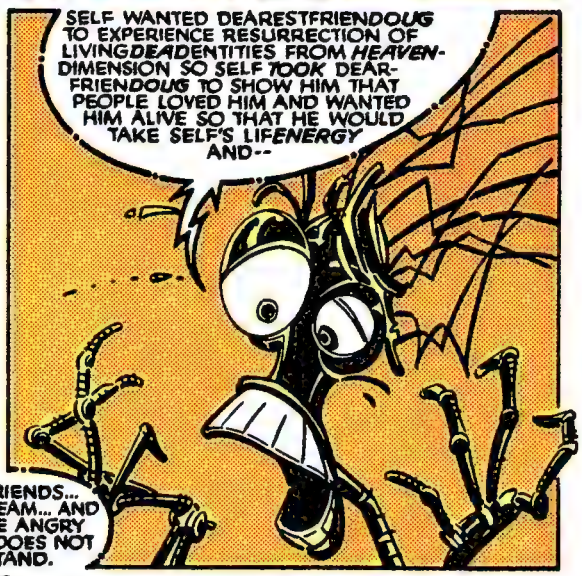
EEE!

SELFRIEND-RAHNE! NO! PLEASE! DON'T!
SELFRIENDOUG'S MOTHERBEING SCREAMED... AND SELF WAS FRIGHTENED.
DOUG'S... MOTHER...?


WARLOCK, IS THAT YOU? WITH DOUG.
YOU'VE STOLEN DOUG'S BODY.

Oh... NO. YOU DIDN'T. AND YOU TOOK DOUG TO SEE HIS MOTHER... LIKE THIS...?
RAHNE! RAHNE! WHAT'S WRONG?


WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
IS THAT... DOUG?
WHAT'S HE DOIN' HERE?
YOU STOLE HIM, DIDN'T YOU?
HOW COULD YOU, WARLOCK?
WHAT DID YOU THINK YOU WERE DOING?
BUT... SELFRIENDS... PEOPLE SCREAM... AND FRIENDS ARE ANGRY AND... SELF DOES NOT UNDERSTAND.


SELF WANTED DEAREST FRIENDOUG TO EXPERIENCE RESURRECTION OF LIVINGDEADENTITIES FROM HEAVEN-DIMENSION SO SELF TOOK DEAR-FRIENDOUG TO SHOW HIM THAT PEOPLE LOVED HIM AND WANTED HIM ALIVE SO THAT HE WOULD TAKE SELF'S LIFENERGY AND--

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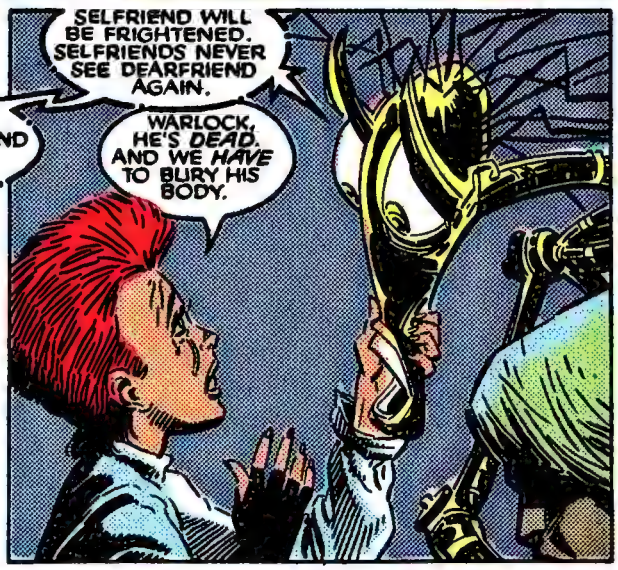
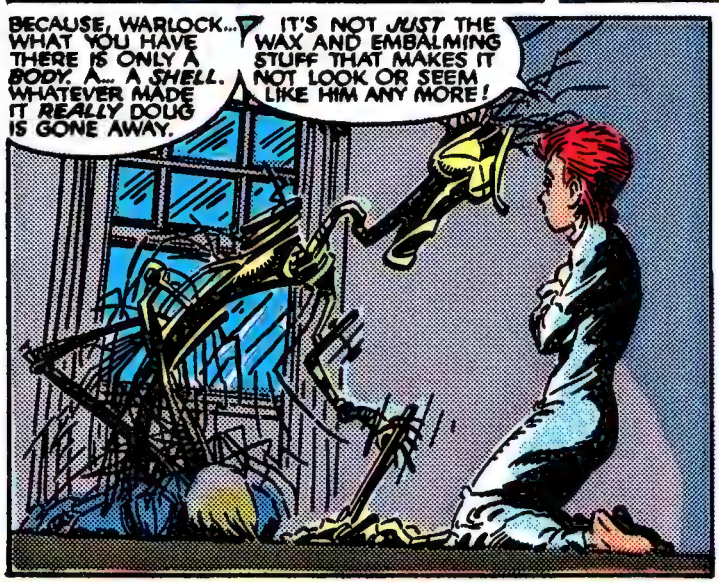
LISTEN, RAHNE, WARLOCK'S JUST DOING WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO DO IN THE DANGER ROOM EARLIER.
HE'S TRYING TO BRING DOUG BACK! HE'S TRYING TO SAVE HIM!

HE... HE IS...?

I SEE... I GUESS... Oh, WARLOCK, YOU FEEL AS BAD AS I DO, DON'T YOU?
BUT, WARLOCK... IT WON'T WORK. NOTHING WILL WORK. YOU'VE MADE ME REALIZE... HE IS DEAD!

AND ALL THE WISHING OR PRETENDING IN THE WORLD CAN'T MAKE IT OTHER-WISE.
YOU CAN'T CARRY HIM AROUND LIKE THAT, WARLOCK. YOU HAVE TO PUT HIM BACK.
NO! MEN WILL PUT SELFDEAREST FRIEND IN A DARK HOLE!


SELFRIEND WILL BE FRIGHTENED. SELFRIENDS NEVER SEE DEARFRIEND AGAIN.
WARLOCK, HE'S DEAD. AND WE HAVE TO BURY HIS BODY.


BECAUSE, WARLOCK... WHAT YOU HAVE THERE IS ONLY A BODY. A... A SHELL. WHATEVER MADE IT REALLY DOUG IS GONE AWAY.
IT'S NOT JUST THE WAX AND EMBALMING STUFF THAT MAKES IT NOT LOOK OR SEEM LIKE HIM ANY MORE!

IT'S JUST A SHELL WE'RE BURYING. DOUG... DOUG'S SAFE IN HEAVEN.
GIVE IT BACK, WARLOCK. PLEASE, LET HIM GO.

SOON...
AH HATE TA BREAK THIS UP, BUT WE GOTTA GET DOUG BACK.
THEY'RE BURYING HIM TOMORROW AN' SOONER 'R LATER, SOMEBODY'S GONNA NOTICE HE'S MISSING.

ALL RIGHT. WE'RE READY NOW... AREN'T WE, 'LOCK?

I'M GONNA 'PORT US DIRECTLY...

...TO THE ROOM WITH THE COFFIN AND--
SSSH! Somebody's there.
--AWAKENED BY THE ALARM! THERE'S BEEN A BREAK-IN. OFFICERS...
...AND THE BODY OF DOUG RAMSEY, THE LAD FROM XAVIER'S SCHOOL, IS GONE.

YOU SURE?
CERTAINLY. NEVER HAVE MY EYES SEEN THE LIKE IN TWENTY YEARS OF--
Oh NO!
WE BETTER HURRY!
GET HIM INTO THE COFFIN.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME.
HERE THEY COME.

THEY'LL SEE.
WHAT'LL WE DO--?
SOMEBODY, CREATE A DIVERSION! QUICK!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

ITEM: You wouldn't think that annihilating a major U.S. city would create such a stir . . . ! When word of Pittsburgh's impending destruction in the New Universe's THE PITT Bookshelf Edition leaked out, the Marvel offices were stormed with interested and indignant inquiries from the various media of the doomed city (doomed in the New Universe, anyway!). It started with radio station WXXP, and eventually *The Pittsburgh Press*, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Point Park College's *The Globe*, WTAE radio, and even KDKA television interviewed the various creative parties responsible and ran articles or segments about the tragedy. What the Pittsburgh area media wanted to know was: *"Why us?"* We tried to explain that the obliteration of America's Most Liveable City was a dramatic outgrowth of the ongoing storyline in STAR BRAND, but they seemed less than satisfied. However, when we pointed out that the three creative types who brainstormed the idea of Pittsburgh's demise, New U editor *Howard Mackie*, and writers *John Byrne* and *Mark Gruenwald*, are "killed" in the very same issue that Pittsburgh is, they were a bit more mollified. Thanks go to *Kelly O'Toole* of the Greater Pittsburgh Office of Promotion for helping us get our side of the story out, and to the people of the greater Pittsburgh area for being such sports about your fictional nuking.

ITEM: We're in the midst of preparing a profusely-illustrated "coffee table" book telling the history of Marvel Comics from the 1930s to the present for publication in late '88. Unfortunately, our archives don't contain everything we'd like to include in the book. We're especially interested in locating unpublished covers; uninked, penciled pages by Marvel artists; preliminary design sketches for Marvel characters; and old photos of the Marvel offices and staff. If *you* should happen to have such collector's pieces in your collection, we'd like to arrange to copy them so they can be included in the book. Write us in care of Mark Gruenwald. History will thank you.

ITEM: One of comic fandom's largest-circulation weekly newspapers, *The Comics Buyer's Guide*, is holding their annual Fan Awards to determine your favorite writer, penciler, inker, colorist, letterer, editor, story, character and a whole slew of other faves. If you would like to make your favorites known, pick up a copy of this month's MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE for the official ballot, or fill out one of your own according to the rules below. Tell them Marvel sent you!

Comics Buyer's Guide Fan Awards for 1987

1. Favorite Editor, 2. Favorite Writer, 3. Favorite Penciller, 4. Favorite Inker, 5. Favorite Colorist 6. Favorite Letterer, 7. Favorite Cover Artist, 8. Favorite Comic-Book Story, 9. Favorite Comic Book, 10. Favorite Limited Comic-Book Series, 11. Favorite Original Graphic Novel, 12. Favorite Reprint Graphic Novel, 13. Favorite Character, 14. Favorite Publication about Comics, and Phil Seuling Award for Favorite Direct-Sale-Only Title.

Only material cover-dated 1987 is eligible for consideration. Votes for ineligible material will not be counted.

Anyone may copy and circulate this ballot, and any fan may vote only once and vote for no more than one nominee in each category. Ballot-box stuffing will result in the destruction of all ballots involved. You need not vote in all categories. *Comics Buyer's Guide* is not eligible for Category 14.

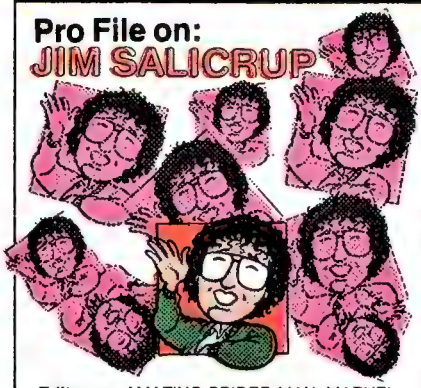
A free copy of *Comics Buyer's Guide* #756, dated May 13, 1988 (which will carry the results of voting), will be sent to any U.S. voter who does not already have a current or expired subscription to *CBG*. Votes from other countries will be counted, but we regret that a sample copy cannot be sent unless the vote is accompanied by $1.50 in U.S. funds to cover costs of handling and shipping to another country.

Mail your ballot individually in a single envelope by March 31, 1988, to: *Comics Buyer's Guide* Fan Awards, 700 East State Street, Iola, Wisconsin 54990.

Include your **Name, Age, Sex, Street or Box, City, State, and ZIP.**

Please type or print your votes and information clearly.

Pro File on: JIM SALICRUP



Editor on: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, MARVEL TALES, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN, SPIDER-MAN COMICS MAGAZINE, WEB OF SPIDER-MAN, AND WHAT THE—?!, a new humor comic in the tradition of NOT BRAND ECCH.

Marvel freelance credits (past): I wrote SPIDEY SUPER STORIES, the Spider-Man story in SPIDER-MAN AND THE POWER PACK Child Abuse prevention comic, THE A-TEAM, THE TRANSFORMERS, THE INHUMANIODS, THE VISIONARIES, KOOL-AID MAN, QUIK BUNNY, and many more that even I won't admit to.

My hobbies are: Non-existent.

The single work of which I am most proud is: THE OFFICIAL MARVEL COMICS TOILET PAPER starring THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and THE INCREDIBLE HULK. If people didn't like the story they knew what they could do with it.

My pet peeves are: Those people out there who're going around calling others Marvel Zombies! I've even launched a series of editorials in MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE crusading against this epidemic. And I promise each and every one of you that I won't rest until this long national nightmare is over.

My place of birth is: The same as most Marvel Universe characters—Manhattan.

My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: Finding an affordable apartment near my place of birth.

My oddest habit is: Waking up at 6:00 AM three times a week to take an aerobics class at a place they laughingly call the "Joy of Movement."

If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: Jerry Lewis. At least they'd love it in France.

The reason I got into comics was: It's one of the greatest loves of my life.

People who knew me in High School thought I was: The luckiest guy in the world to already be working at Marvel.

My favorite performers are: Ringo Starr, Merv Griffin, Alice Cooper, Buster Poindexter, Lassie, Captain Kangaroo, Jack Benny, Bob Hope, William Powell, Myrna Loy, Carole Lombard, Mariel Hemingway, Brooke Shields, and many, many more.

The last good book I read was: SLAVES OF NEW YORK by Tama Janowitz.

The last good movie I saw was: SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS

The biggest influences on my work include: Stan Lee, Jim Shooter, and Andy Warhol.

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: To make AMAZING SPIDER-MAN the number one best-selling comic in the world.

The worst part of my job is: Finding enough time to do everything I want to do.

When nobody's looking I like to: Plug MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE.

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: That Glenn Herdling and Dwight Jon Zimmerman do all my work.

CHECKLIST

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- ☐ STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #19
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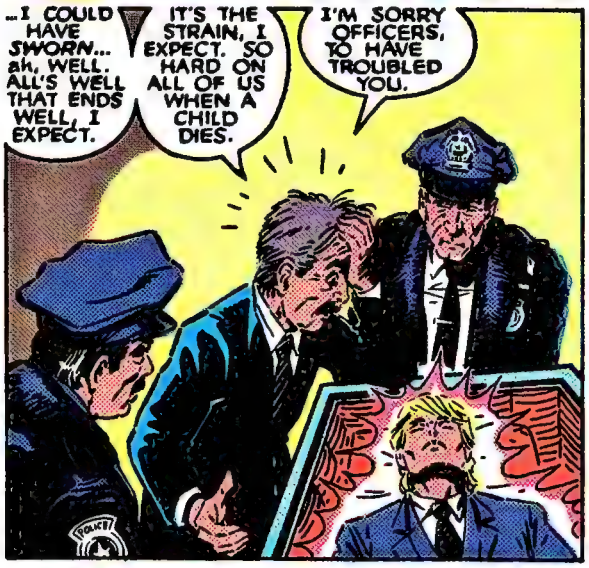
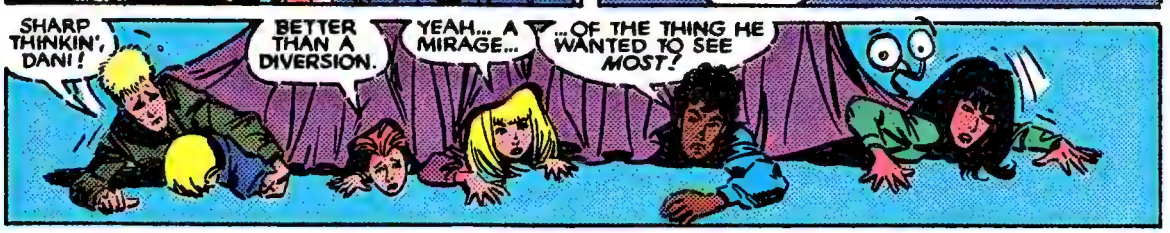
- ☐ MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #63
- ☐ G.I. JOE COMICS MAGAZINE #10
- ☐ CONAN SAGA #13
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL MARVEL COMICS INDEX TO THE AVENGERS #6

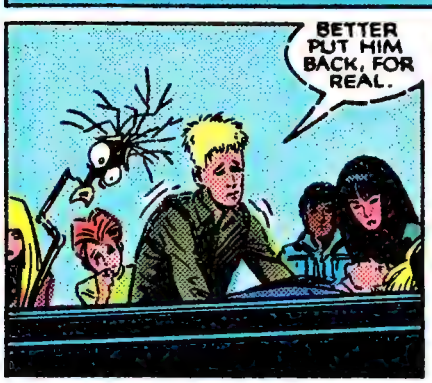
YOU SAID THE BODY WAS MISSING.
CLIK!

IT WAS! I MEAN... I THOUGHT IT WAS!
I LEFT THE COFFIN COVERED... I KNOW I DID...
...AND THERE REALLY WAS A BREAK-IN... SEE THE SHATTERED WINDOW... AND...

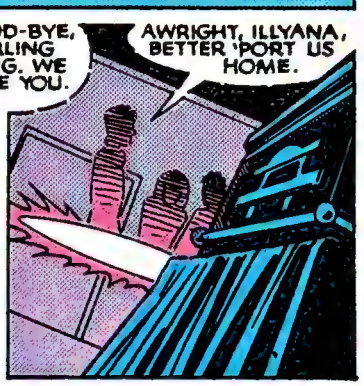

...I COULD HAVE SWORN... ah, WELL. ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL, I EXPECT.
IT'S THE STRAIN, I EXPECT. SO HARD ON ALL OF US WHEN A CHILD DIES.
I'M SORRY OFFICERS, TO HAVE TROUBLED YOU.

NO TROUBLE AT ALL, SIR. IT'S A SAD JOB YOU HAVE.
MAYBE IT WAS PRANKSTERS... OR--
WE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT, Mr. GREEN, DON'T YOU WORRY...
Whew!


SHARP THINKIN', DANI!
BETTER THAN A DIVERSION.
YEAH... A MIRAGE...
...OF THE THING HE WANTED TO SEE MOST!


BETTER PUT HIM BACK, FOR REAL.

GOOD-BYE, DARLING DOUG. WE LOVE YOU.


AWRIGHT, ILLYANA, BETTER 'PORT US HOME.

THEY WERE EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES.
NOTHING LASTS FOREVER.
THE AVENGERS
THE END BEGINS. ISSUE #291, BY
WALT SIMONSON, JOHN BUSCEMA AND TOM PALMER.
MONTHLY FROM MARVEL®.
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THE NEXT DAY...
...AND MAY HE REST IN PEACE. AMEN.
RAHNE... YOU AN' 'LOCK READY?
YES, SAM. WE'RE COMING.
GOOD-BYE, SELFRIEND. SELF WILL MISS YOU...
... AND A PIECE OF SELF WILL ALWAYS BE IN HEAVENDIMENSION OF LIVINGDEAD WITH YOU.

THAT EVENING...

FORGE STARTS CHANTING... AND SOMEHOW, HIS VERY WORDS-- THE VERY SOUNDS THEMSELVES-- TAKE ON A PALPABLE, PHYSICAL FORCE.

OH, NO! NOT THIS AGAIN. ILLYANA, WE KNOW HOW YOUR BROTHER-- ALL THE X-MEN-- DIED. BY HEART. WE'VE SEEN IT A MILLION TIMES.

WELL, WATCH AGAIN, BOBBY.

FORGE GESTURES... AND THE X-MEN TRANSFORM INTO BEINGS OF PURE ENERGY...

ILLYANA... BOBBY'S RIGHT. IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOU TO DWELL ON IT THIS WAY. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO!

...UNTIL WITH A FIERCE WAR CRY, THE STAR IS THROWN. AND JUST LIKE THAT... IT'S OVER.

THE NEXT THING HE SAYS IS: "THE SCALES ARE BALANCED... THE GHOSTS ARE GONE..."

...THAT THE SPIRITS OF HIS FRIENDS ARE FREE TO REST IN PEACE AND THE PRICE ISN'T WORTH THE VICTORY.

THE PRICE HE PAID WAS MY BROTHER'S LIFE.

IT WAS FORGE'S FAULT. HIS SORCERIES CAUSED THAT DESTRUCTION... AND MY BROTHER'S DEATH STOPPED IT.

AND I'M GOING TO MAKE HIM PAY. SORCERER THOUGH HE IS...

...FORGE CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT THAT BLEAK "VICTORY" IS GOING TO COST HIM.

NEXT ISSUE: SHE'LL MAKE HIM PAY... OVER FREEDOM FORCE'S DEAD BODIES!

DON'T MISS IT!

REPORT CARD

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

ANN NOCENTI
EDITOR
TERRY KAVANAGH
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Marvel,

Well, hoorah, I say, for the subversive, radical edge to Katie's speech in THE NEW MUTANTS #49! "I'm the 'Pied Piper' — the new bad influence luring them from the path of righteousness, prompting them to question the established order, to ask why all sentient creatures can't be treated with the same fundamental decency and humanity . . . " Wow!

As a closet mutant myself, I must confess I've often dreamed dreams of power, of a day when Homo Superior will run the show. Can you blame me? But NEW MUTANTS #49 taught me what such a tyrranical rule would be like. It taught me to use my mutant powers for good and not for evil.

Chris, gang, — wow, this mag has come a long way since #16 (the earliest issue I have)!

Complaint corner. Well, it's a shame that Karma and Magma have no personalities. It is strange, because in THE X-MEN, it is the women who are your strongest and most interesting characters, Chris, but in NEW MUTANTS it tends to be the men, except for Dani and Rahne. (And Illyana. I don't make much of a case with all these exceptions, do I?) In NEW MUTANTS, the throwaways are girls. I love what you're doing with neato-Magneto.

Well, anyway, that's what I don't like. What I do like is the bulk of your work and the direction it's all been going in. Again, NEW MUTANTS #49 was great! Good pacing.

John Wagenhauser
275 Ft. Washington Ave. #3E
New York, NY 10032

As long as we're doing more right than wrong, we're happy, John. Not that that means we're going to stop trying to be perfect . . .

Dear People,

I am writing in reference to NEW MUTANTS #49. Dani, Sam, Doug, and Warlock — opposite of last issue, eh? This is what would happen if the mutants fought back and won? Kind of bleak and cold-hearted. I sort of figured that Roberto would follow in his dad's footsteps.

Anyway, Dani is not bad in this one. Of course, she would be the one to go into the hospital for the supplies, leaving Sam in the getaway "car." This Valkyrie sight of hers could possibly turn her awfully sour on life. I hope it doesn't.

Sam — okay, I like him getting a girlfriend. (Perhaps, a wife?)

Doug — he is still pretty precocious, is he not? It is nice to see he is not prejudiced. Please do not gift him with a miraculous super power, he is fine the way he is.

Warlock — you are going to finally have the climactic battle with Magus! Yayyy! He — Warlock — cannot possibly have a real life with Magus hanging around, ready to squash him at any opportunity.

Till next time . . .

Stephen C. Moffit
104 E. Northrup
Midwest City, OK 73110

We hope you're happy now, Stephen. We didn't "gift" Doug with a "miraculous super power" and now look at the consequences . . . but, we'll be dealing with this issue in much more detail in upcoming letter columns. (We want to make sure you return to this page, as well. We have pride in every page of THE NEW MUTANTS — including the letter column.)

Dear Marvel,

I am a sophomore in college and have collected many Marvel titles. Recently, I began collecting THE NEW MUTANTS and have even been buying back issues. I just bought NEW MUTANTS #50 and would like to comment on it.

First, I must compliment your entire staff. The production of NEW MUTANTS #50 was a masterpiece!

Second, Illyana "Magik" Rasputin has become my favorite character in the Marvel Universe and seeing her lose Limbo was a major shock! It should offer some very interesting story possibilities in the future.

Third, I'd like to see Magik cast more of her spells, instead of relying so much on her Soulsword (which I like).

Fourth, it's nice to see Xavier again. How will he react to the new X-Men roster?

Fifth, the Warlock/Magus war was great! I can't wait to see how Warlock develops now that he no longer has to worry about Daddy!

Thank you for making THE NEW MUTANTS such an enjoyable comic! Your hard work is much appreciated!

Robert Nowagewski
Ferndale, MI

Magik has certainly been relying more and more on her sorcerous nature, Robert, but we don't think you're really going to like the consequences. And, as soon as next fall, you'll know the full extent of what we're talking about — here, and in the pages of THE X-MEN as well as X-FACTOR!

Dear Creative Team,

NEW MUTANTS #50 had what I was waiting for — the return of Professor Xavier! I have been waiting to see him again ever since he was saved from certain death in X-MEN #200 and I am anxious to see how this will affect the lives of the New Mutants and the X-Men in the future.

The de-aging of Magus to an infant was a brilliant idea and I was glad to see Cypher get in on the action, also! I hope Magik regains control of Limbo. I really like S'ym and was sad to see him turned into a techno-organic being!

I love the way the artwork was done, especially the pictures of Magus and Warlock on pages 24 and 31!

Richard Ramirez
2561 Flint Ave
Bronx, NY 10475

If you liked the art on THE NEW MUTANTS then, Richard, we can't wait to hear what you think about the whole new direction we've taken with Bret Blevins and Terry Austin. It's certainly different — but we think it captures the characters of the New Mutants better than ever before!

Dear Editor,

I have been waiting a long time to see Professor X's return to THE NEW MUTANTS, and now that I've seen it all that I can say is — "Wow!" I adore and admire what all you fine folks at Marvel have done to his appearance. I can hardly wait to see if he is back for good or if he will stay with his beautiful Lilandra and the Starjammers! That would be a hard choice for any man let alone an educator and a father-figure to so many who seem to be in such dire need of him. I certainly don't envy him his decision in the least!

Scott Borrowman
PO Box 161
Nebo, IL 62355

For an update on Professor X and the Starjammers, watch for their 8-part saga in next year's brand-new, ground-breaking, Marvel comic called MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS! This is an entirely different comic book than what you're used to, and it features four separate adventures of different Marvel characters every issue — 32 pages of art and story, no ads! And you know what's the best thing about this new title? It's gonna be *weekly!* Yep, 52 issues a year! That's 208 more Marvel adventures a year, 1664 more pages of dynamite action . . . neat, huh?

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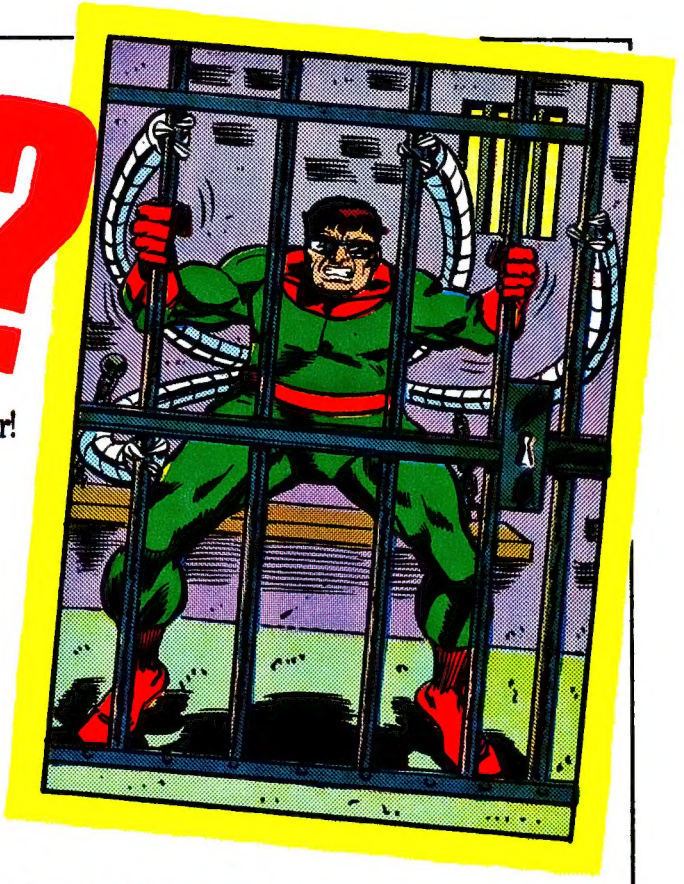

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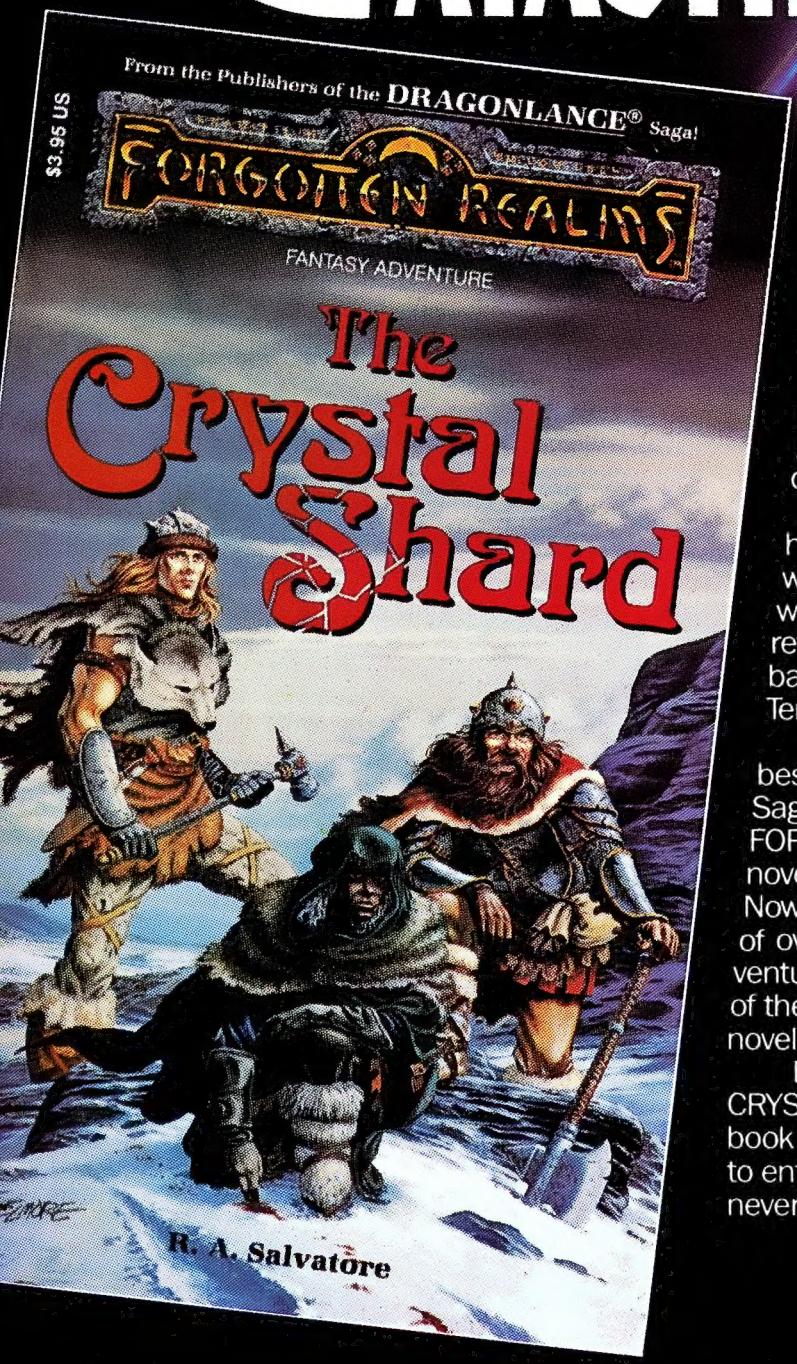

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